



SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS  
COMMUNICATIONS

# NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **11 Steps to Emergency Preparedness - Create a Family Emergency Plan**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – Sedgwick County continues to remind residents to be “Ready to Respond” to any emergency, and to complete one of the *11 Steps to Emergency Preparedness* on Friday, January 11.

This month, families should take time to create a family emergency plan. A good plan means taking time to discuss information about specific disasters – fires, tornadoes, floods, and chemical emergencies. You should establish and practice escape routes from every room of your home. Post emergency contact numbers near each phone, including an in-state contact and an out-of-state friend or relative. Agree on two family meeting places – one near your home in case of fire, and another outside your neighborhood in case you can’t return to your home.

Finally, don’t forget to discuss how your family will obtain medication in case of a widespread medical emergency. In Sedgwick County, a 2-day supply of doxycycline (a commonly used antibiotic) has been purchased for every resident. The medication will be distributed at Wichita area high schools, by major employers in the Wichita area, and by designated sites in Sedgwick County’s small cities. As you create your family emergency plan, decide now which family member will be responsible for picking up medication for the whole family. Planning now might reduce the confusion if mass distribution of the antibiotics is ever needed.

For more information about the 11 Steps to Emergency Preparedness or Sedgwick County’s mass distribution plan for medication, contact Sedgwick County Communications at 660-9370.

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